

[12 MARCH, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

1	2	3	4	5	6
26	Himalayan Zoological Park, Bulbuley, Gangtok, Sikkim	8.87	—	19.38	28.25
27	Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Vandalur, Tamil Nadu	14.06	46.75	149.00	209.81
28	Chennai Snake Park Trust, Guindy, Tamil Nadu	0.12	—	—	0.12
29	Children's Corner, Guindy, Tamil Nadu	2.25	2.00	5.00	9.25
30	Sepahijala Zoological Park, Tripura	—	—	17.34	17.34
31	Kanpur Zoological Park, Kanpur, (U.P.)	13.50	3.15	19.75	36.40
32	Prince of Wales Zoological Garden, Lucknow (U.P.)	25.00	20.50	37.11	82.61
33	Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling	28.81	19.06	34.37	82.24
34	Alipore Zoological Garden, Calcutta, West Bengal	0.50	60.79	—	61.29
TOTAL		321.46	393.14	1073.58	1788.18

Cancer risk of CNG

1476. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Compressed Natural Gas causes cancer;
- (b) if not, how Government denounce such rumour in order to encourage auto-rickshaw and taxi drivers to change over to CNG as fast as possible;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the financial incentive schemes to encourage change over in the three wheelers, are needed to be streamlined; and
- (d) if so, by when this would be done?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) There is no conclusive data to indicate that

Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) may cause cancer. Emission norms for CNG vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988. Fiscal incentives are already available for use of CNG as auto-fuel.

**Foreign funds for forest projects in Andhra Pradesh**

1477. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some externally aided projects for development and preservation of forests are under implementation in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) what is the present status of these projects;
- (d) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, whether Government have taken up the State's forest projects with such agencies, for funding; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) and (c) Do not arise.
- (d) The Andhra Pradesh Forestry Project Phase II has been sent to the World Bank through the Department of Economic Affairs for seeking external assistance.
- (e) The Andhra Pradesh Forestry Project Phase II has been conceived as a six year project costing Rs. 1272 crores. The main objectives of the project are to restore and maintain ecological balance, conserve biological diversity and genetic resources encourage non-wood forest products, encourage social forestry maintain aesthetics and to increase environmental awareness and people's participation in forest management. It is proposed to treat about 5.62 lakh hectares of Government forest land and to bring about 26 lakh hectares of private land under tree cover.